



Larson Report

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June 2009
E-NEWS

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Personnel (Vice-
Chair)

Parks, Energy and
Environment

Transportation,
Public Works and
Transit

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What do you think
of UWM moving to
the County Grounds
in Wauwatosa?

Please call me or
send me an email
with your thoughts.

Dear Neighbor,

Once again the sun is out and the birds are chirping. This glorious weather brings exciting events in Milwaukee County. I hope you can join us at some of the great community happenings. Whether you come to **Chill on the Hill**, **golf at our great courses**, participate in some of the **Neighborhood Association meetings**, or do all of the above, we're going to have a great start to summer!

In this issue of the Larson Report you'll find:

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Bikes on Buses Launch

All of the Milwaukee County Transit System buses will be outfitted with bike racks over the next three weeks. Having bike racks on our buses will make us a more bike friendly community and has the potential to increase the amount of people using Milwaukee County Transit. Across the nation, 70.8% of public buses have bike racks, and now Milwaukee County will as well.

If you are an avid biker, an avid bus rider or both, please join us for our “Bikes on Buses” Launch this Thursday June 4th. We will be starting at the Courthouse at noon and then biking over to O'Donnell Park by twelve thirty.

Special thanks go out to Supervisor [Pat Jursik](#), the [Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin](#) and to everyone else who worked tirelessly to get bike racks for the Milwaukee County Transit System. Feel free to join us for this educational and interactive event and receive a **free bus ride ticket**.

Park Happenings for June

- Wednesday, June 3, you are invited to take part in an evening **Garden Walk at Boerner Botanical Gardens** at 6:30pm to learn about “What’s new with Annual / Perennials”.
- The **Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Boulevard**, will display its Summer Show, “**Summer in Provence**,” from **June 6** through **Sept. 13**. See a portion of the French countryside represented in blooming florals and colors with a fountain, provencal shop, lavender and sunflowers at the Domes.
- Also on Saturday, June 6 from 10am-1pm, the River Revitalization Foundation will be holding its “**Hike for Your Health**” **Fair** at the Gordon Park Pavilion, 2828 N. Humboldt Boulevard, as part of the National Trails Day. This event will raise awareness about being active outdoors and highlight great opportunities in the Milwaukee Area.

- Milwaukee County golf courses that are presently open include: **Brown Deer** (18-holes), **Currie** (9-holes), **Doyne** (9-holes), **Dretzka** (18-holes), **Grant** (18-holes), **Greenfield** (18-holes), **Hansen** (9-holes), **Lake** (9-holes), **Lincoln** (9-holes), **Madison** (9-holes), **Noyes** (9-holes), **Oakwood** (18-holes), **Warnimont** (18-holes), and **Whitnall** (18-holes). Take advantage of a **Special Offer at Brown Deer Park** that runs thru July 1st. Golf 18-holes at Brown Deer between Mon-Wed after 2pm with a cart and \$10 food voucher for \$47, or play 9-holes with a cart and a \$10 food voucher for \$34. **Weekend foursomes** for all golfers playing 18-holes with a cart for \$100 or 9-holes with a cart for \$60 at Currie, Dretzka, Grant, Greenfield, Lincoln, Oakwood, and Whitnall courses. **Great discount specials** will continue all year for seniors as well as sunset golf and weekday rates after 2pm.

Pension Payment from Mercer

In May, Milwaukee County's lawsuit against Mercer, Inc., went to trial. We alleged that, in 2000, Mercer Human Resource Consulting was negligent in giving advice to the County Board and County Executive regarding the backdrop and other pension benefits. Milwaukee County also alleged that Mercer wrongly advised the Pension Study Commission, a body which is required to receive the input of an actuary (like Mercer) when assessing costs of proposed pension changes. In 2002, this sequence of events culminated with the resignation of the County Executive and the special election recalls of seven Supervisors from the County Board.

Last month's trial resulted in Mercer paying Milwaukee County \$45 million in damages, which will be invested in the pension fund to help offset some of the costs of the benefit changes. Although it was a previous County Board and County Executive that received the bad advice from Mercer and approved these changes, I have heard a great deal of feedback from 14th District residents on this issue. In light of the positive news that Milwaukee County has achieved a payment from Mercer, it is my hope that we can close this chapter and move on to the many other pressing challenges facing Milwaukee County.

College Avenue Ramps and Park and Ride lots are Currently Being Rebuilt

The College Avenue ramps to and from I-94 as well as the Park and Ride lots are currently closed so that the entire College Avenue interchange can be rebuilt. The northeast Park and Ride lot is scheduled to reopen in late-August while the southeast Park and Ride lot and the interchange ramps are scheduled to reopen in November.

A temporary park and ride lot will be available for public use at MATC's parking lot B during the Park and Ride lot closures. This lot is accessible off Howell Avenue between College and Rawson. The Layton Avenue and Rawson Avenue interchange ramps will be open as alternates during the College Avenue ramp closures. All scheduled closures are based off the construction schedule and are therefore weather dependent. Thank you for your patience during the project's long-term roadway closures.

Did You Know?

Did you know that in 2008 over 292,000 picnic permits were granted for Milwaukee County Parks? That's a lot of meals!

Chill on the Hill is Back!

The long anticipated wait is over! Chill on the Hill, the free concert series at Humboldt Park, has returned. This Tuesday night event is a great way to get to know your neighbors and enjoy the outdoors with some great music in a family-friendly atmosphere. The upcoming schedule for the June:

June 2 (kickoff)	Paul Cebal	6:30-8:30pm
June 9	Sharking Hour/Aimless Blades	6:30-8:30pm
June 16	Copperbox	6:30-8:30pm
June 23	Pupy Costello and His Big City Honkey Tonk	6:30-8:30pm
June 30	American Legion Band	6:30-8:30pm

When you stop by, please make sure to support our cosponsors and vendors; their continued collaboration helps make the event a success.

Dog Park Meeting

Milwaukee County Supervisors [Patricia Jursik](#), [Marina Dimitrijevic](#), and I are inviting Milwaukee County residents to an important public meeting regarding the off-leash, fenced-in dog exercise area proposed for Bay View Park. (Note that the public information meeting will be held at the **South Shore Park Pavilion**.)

The Milwaukee County Parks department will be on hand to hear comments from neighbors and answer any questions about the proposed dog exercise area, which would be developed within a portion of Bay View Park.

Who: Milwaukee County Supervisors Jursik, Dimitrijevic, Larson, and the Milwaukee County Parks Department
What: Public Information Meeting on Bay View Park Dog Exercise Area
When: 6:00 pm. – 7:00 pm.
Monday, June 8, 2009
Where: [South Shore Pavilion](#)
2900 S. Shore Drive, Milwaukee, WI

Route 53 Expansion

Upon passage of legislation that I co-authored with Supervisor Dimitrijevic, the Milwaukee County Transit System Route 53 will now offer expanded service to the Lake Express Ferry Terminal along the lakefront in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood. The route will be operated on a trial basis from June 14 through August 30, 2009 and will serve all arrivals and departures with the exception of the 12:30 a.m. arrival in Milwaukee. This project is expected to both increase use and access to different forms of transit within Milwaukee County also has the benefit of being **cost neutral**. In other words, we were able to increase services and efficiencies without charging the taxpayer any additional money.

This is a win-win-win for the residents of Milwaukee County, visitors to Milwaukee County, and for the Lake Express Ferry.

I want to give special thanks to [Supervisor Dimitrijevic](#) for her help on making this route extension a reality.

June Neighborhood Group Meetings:

Oklahoma Gardens Neighborhood Association

Contact: Wendy Safron at (414) 643-0766

June Meeting

When: Monday, June 8, 6:30pm.

Where: St. Joseph Child Development Center 1600 W. Oklahoma

Holler Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: President, Chris Kuester at 769-1815

June Meeting

When: Monday, June 29, 7:00pm.

Where: Holler Park Easter Seals Pavilion

Uncas Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Connie Wilson at 759-9009 (cell) or 762-6959 (home)

June Meeting

When: Tuesday, June 16, 6:30pm.

Where: House of Hamburg, 5937 S Howell Ave.

Holt Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Diane Kosarzycki at (414) 645-1967

Call Diane for meeting information

Airport Gardens Neighborhood Association

Contact: Perry Buck at (414) 747-2470 (home) or (414) 759-1182 (cell)

June Meeting

When: June 18th 6:30pm

Where: St. Veronica's Church 353 E Norwich St. Johnson Hall – basement of the church

Humboldt Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Ruth Simos at (414) 483-9330 r.simos@sbcglobal.net

June Meeting

When: Tuesday, June 9, 7:00pm

Where: Humboldt Park Pavilion

City Meadows Neighborhood Association

Contact: Cindi Herzog at (414) 817-8000

<http://www.Citymeadows.org>

June Meeting

When: Tuesday, June 16, 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Where: 1122 W. Boden Court

Town of Lake Neighborhood Association

Contact: Paul Gessner at (414) 482-2261

When: Thursday, June 11, 2009 at 6:30pm

Where: 4001 S. 6th Street (at the Water Tower)

Bay View Neighborhood Association

Contact: Patty Thompson at (414) 403-8003 or (414) 297-9783
bayviewneighborhood@gmail.com

<http://www.bayviewneighborhood.org>

Citizens Crime Analysis Meeting

When: Thursday, June 18, 6-7 pm.

Where: District 2 Police Station - 245 West Lincoln Avenue

Wilson Park Neighborhood Association

Contact: Scott Spiker at (414) 647-1774

June Meeting

When: Wednesday, June 3, 6:30pm.

Where: Wilson Park Pavilion

Garden District Neighborhood Association

Contact: Michael Murphy at (414) 364-8762

June Meeting

When: Tuesday, June 16, 6:30pm.

Where: 1122 W Boden Ct. 2nd Floor Conference Room

Tippecanoe Park Watch

Contact: 278-4252

No Meeting in June

Supervisor Larson at the New County Zoo Exhibit



Supervisor Larson at the opening of the Milwaukee County Zoo's "Wings from Down Under" exhibit. This exhibit lets visitors feed Australian birds out their hands.